



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHP Marin Arrests Felony DUI/Hit and Run Suspect

On May 24, 2011, at approximately 5:23 P.M., 34-year-old Julio Jose Gomez-Hernandez, of Novato, was driving a 2006 Ford F-150, eastbound Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, east of Laurel Avenue. Due to Mr. Gomez-Hernandez level intoxication, he allowed the front of the Ford to collide with the rear of a 2005 Honda Accord driven by 59-year-old Eileen Doherty of Novato. This collision caused the Honda to be pushed forward, resulting in the front of the Honda colliding with the rear of a 2005 Nissan Quest driven by 55-year-old Joselle Chao of San Rafael.

After the collision, Mr. Gomez-Hernandez fled the scene in the Ford, but was soon after stopped by a Marin County Sheriff Deputy on College Avenue just north of Kent Avenue. During the course of the investigation, a CHP officer determined Mr. Gomez-Hernandez was the driver at the time of the collision, had been driving under the influence, and intentionally fled the scene. The CHP officer placed Mr. Gomez-Hernandez under arrest and transported him to the Marin County Jail where he was booked for the following charges:

1. 23153(a) VC – Felony, driving under the influence causing bodily harm
2. 23153(b) VC – Felony, driving with a BAC of .08 or greater, causing bodily harm
3. 20001(a) VC – Felony, Hit and Run causing bodily injury
4. 12500(a) VC – Driving while unlicensed

Ms. Doherty suffered moderate injuries as a result of the collision.

Mr. Gomez-Hernandez had two passengers at the time of the collision, 38-year-old Omar Lobos and 40-year-old Baylon Agustin, both from of Novato.

Ms. Chao had two passengers at the time of the collision, a 12-year-old female and a 14-year-old male, both from San Rafael.